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2-9-2015

## Closure of the Public Health Leadership Graduate Certificate Program (UTK Notification)

University of Tennessee Knoxville

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February 9, 2015

Dr. Belle Wheelan  
President, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools  
1866 Southern Lane  
Decatur, GA 30033-4097

RE: Substantive Change Notification

Dear Dr. Wheelan:

Please consider this letter notification from the University of Tennessee of a substantive change per the guidelines as stated in the Substantive Change for Accredited Institutions of the Commission on Colleges - Policy Statement and Procedures document.

Closure of Graduate Certificate in Public Health Leadership, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences

The Graduate Certificate in Public Health Leadership was established in 2005 as part of a workforce development consortium, which included the Tennessee Department of Public Health, East Tennessee State University, and the University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center in Memphis. The intended audience was Health Department staff seeking continuing education and career advancement opportunities in the public health practice arena. The program focused on leadership principles and skills as applied in public health and community settings. The consortium activities ended in 2008 when the Tennessee Department of Health discontinued funding. At the January 29, 2015 meeting of the Graduate Council, the proposal to close the Graduate Certificate in Public Health Leadership was approved. UT Faculty Senate approved the closure on February 2, 2015. This closure goes into effect with the Fall Semester, 2015.

No teach-out plan is needed. There are no students currently enrolled in the graduate certificate program.

The program is composed of the following courses: Public Health 520, Public Health Policy and Administration (3 credit hours); Public Health 521, Organizational Dynamics in Health Care (3 credit hours); Public Health 528, Public Health Leadership (3 credit hours); and Public Health 580, Special Topics in Public Health (1 to 3 credit hours) plus an elective for a total of 15 credit hours.

**Office of Accreditation**

527 Andy Holt Tower Knoxville, TN 37996-0152  
865-974-3635 865-974-4811 fax malbrech@utk.edu

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February 9, 2015

University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Substantive Change: Closure of Graduate Certificate in Public Health Leadership, College of Education,  
Health, and Human Sciences

Public Health 520 is a Public Health foundational core course. Public Health 521 is part of the Health Policy and Management concentration. Public Health 580 is used in any of the three concentration areas of study. Public Health 528 was intended for the graduate certificate and will be removed from the course inventory.

No current faculty or staff is affected by the closure of the program.

This change will go into effect with the 2015-2016 academic year (first day of classes is August 19, 2015).

Sincerely,

**Original Signed**

Mary Lewnes Albrecht, PhD

Associate Vice Provost for Accreditation and SACS COC Liaison

eC:     Dr. Jimmy G. Cheek, Chancellor  
          Dr. Susan D. Martin, Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs  
          Dr. Sally McMillan, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs  
          Dr. Carolyn Hodges, Vice Provost and Dean of the Graduate School  
          Dr. Bob Rider, Dean, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences  
          Dr. Dixie Lee Thompson, Associate Dean, College of Education, Health and Human Sciences  
          Dr. Paul C. Erwin, Head, Department of Public Health  
          Dr. Steven M. Sheeley, Vice President, SACSCOC

Attachments:

1. Text to be Removed and Retained from the 2015-2016 Graduate Catalog
2. Pages from the January 29, 2015 Agenda of the Graduate Council

# Text to be Removed from the 2015-2016 Graduate Catalog

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## **Public Health Leadership Graduate Certificate**

The University of Tennessee MPH program, in a consortium arrangement with East Tennessee State University and the Tennessee Department of Health, offers a graduate certificate in public health leadership for Health Department staff seeking continuing education and career advancement opportunities in the public health practice arena. Delivered exclusively through electronically mediated courses, the program is focused on leadership principles and skills as applied in public health and community settings.

The 15-hour certificate is available by completing PUBH 520, PUBH 521, PUBH 528, and PUBH 580 plus an elective. For those holding the MPH, other identified elective coursework may be used to satisfy certificate requirements, by petition.

# Course in the Public Health Leadership Graduate Certificate to be Removed from the 2015-2016 Graduate Catalog

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## **PUBH 528 - Public Health Leadership**

3 Credit Hours

Principles and practices of leadership within public health and community settings. Leadership and the core public health functions of assessment, policy development, and assurance. Enhancing communication, decision making, team-building, and conflict resolution skills. Leadership for planning process and organizational change. Review of case studies and skill-building exercises.

# Courses in the Public Health Leadership Graduate Certificate and Used in the Master of Public Health: Will be Retained

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## **PUBH 520 - Public Health Policy and Administration**

3 Credit Hours

Administrative considerations of community-based health care programs and public health practice. Health policy formulation, political environment and governmental involvement in health, legal responsibilities, and managerial concepts/techniques/process.

## **PUBH 521 - Organizational Dynamics in Health Care**

3 Credit Hours

The development of organizational theory and its effects on organizational dynamics in health care organizations in the private and public sectors. Case and problem-solving discussions, projects that demonstrate the needed skill sets.

## **PUBH 580 - Special Topics**

1-3 Credit Hours

*Repeatability: May be repeated if topic differs. Maximum 6 hours.*

*Credit Level Restriction: Graduate credit only.*

*Registration Restriction(s): Minimum student level – graduate.*

*Registration Permission: Consent of instructor.*

#### ❖ **DROP CERTIFICATE – PUBLIC HEALTH LEADERSHIP**

In the 2015-2016 Graduate Catalog, drop the public health leadership graduate certificate program

**Rationale:** This certificate has not been awarded since the formation of the department of public health in 2010. Impact on other units: None. Financial impact: None. This program does not have any current students or applications in progress. The certificate has not been awarded in over four years.

Student learner objectives impacted: None. This certificate has not been awarded in over four years

Support from assessment activities: No assessments conducted. Certificate has not been awarded in over four years.

#### **REVISE REQUIREMENTS – PUBLIC HEALTH, DUAL MS-MPH PROGRAM**

In the 2015-2016 Graduate Catalog,

1. revise the second sentence of the first paragraph to change the minimum hours from 64-67 to 58-61.
2. Under "Approved for Dual Credit" heading – first sentence: add NUTR 505 and NUTR 506 to the sentence: (...include up to 9 hours of NUTR 505, NUTR 506, and NUTR 515, 1 hour of NUTR 509, ...)
3. Under "Approved for Dual Credit" heading – second sentence: add NUTR 505 and NUTR 506 to the sentence: (...include a maximum of 10 hours of NUTR 505, NUTR 506, NUTR 515 and NUTR 519, ...)

**Rationale:** Reducing the overall hours for the dual degree, which currently far exceed the minimum requirements, makes this program more consistent with other options. Specifying NUTR 505 and 506 as Approved Dual Credit does not change the overall hours of Approved Dual Credit, but better reflects the core training received by those pursuing the Dual degree, as these are courses offered from a public health perspective, but with a nutrition emphasis. Impact on other units: None. Students in the Dual MS-MPH program already take NUTR 505 and NUTR 506. Financial Impact: None. This change does not change the existing faculty load.

**Learner Outcomes Supported:** The change to the Approved Dual Credit addresses all SLOs. However, it is most critically linked to SLO #2 for the MPH program, as it better reflects the opportunities students pursuing the Dual MS-MPH have to apply public health nutrition skills in community settings.

**Support from assessment activities:** These changes were the result of curricular review from both NUTR and PUBH faculty.

#### **DEPARTMENT OF THEORY AND PRACTICE IN TEACHER EDUCATION**

##### ● **ADD CONCENTRATION – TEACHER EDUCATION MAJOR, EDS**

Teaching and Learning

In the 2015-2016 Graduate Catalog, revise the first paragraph to include the new concentration.

**Rationale:** Many teachers advance in their careers as instructional coaches, team leaders, mentors, evaluators, and curriculum specialists. This concentration creates the opportunity for TPTE to offer a concentration at both the MS and EdS level that is well suited for teachers advancing into such responsibilities. The curriculum for both the MS and EdS has been conceptualized collaboratively with ELPS and EPC to assure students access to a wide knowledge and experience base. The curricular requirements, while flexible enough to accommodate varying student interests and expertise, include key elements from TPTE. Impact on other units: The teaching and learning concentration will require courses in both ELPS and EPC. Currently there is capacity within TPTE, ELPS, and EPC to accommodate campus-based students who choose this concentration. Courses offered in partnership with specific school districts will be negotiated according to capacity and memoranda of understanding pertinent to such districts. See support documents from ELPS and EPC. Financial Impact: The addition of this concentration within the Track I MS and EdS should be a means of recruiting additional students to the graduate programs in the Graduate School of Education. Campus-based offerings are already available to support this concentration. Cohort-designed programs for local school districts will operate under financial arrangements that enable the program to be self-sustaining.